

David C. Schopp
Chief Executive Officer

Michele M. Finn
Chief Administrator



Rocco Lucente II
President

James J. Rooney
First Vice President

Howard G. Foster
Second Vice President

Lisa M. Patterson
Secretary

Raymond P. Reichert
Treasurer

Karen M. McCarthy
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Please find the following documents from the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc.:

- A request from the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo requesting retention of \$5,556.25 from 2014;
- 2013 financial statements, annual report and minutes from the annual Board of Directors meeting held on June 10, 2014;
- 2014 annual report and a copy of the minutes from the annual Board of Directors meeting held on June 25, 2015;
- 2014 financial statements, annual report and minutes from the annual Board of Directors meeting on June 25, 2015.

Thank you.

David C. Schopp
Chief Executive Officer

Michele M. Finn
Chief Administrator



Rocco Lucente II
President

James J. Rooney
First Vice President

Howard G. Foster
Second Vice President

Lisa M. Patterson
Secretary

Raymond P. Reichert
Treasurer

May 12, 2016

Karen M. McCarthy
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

Pursuant to Section 11 of the agreement with the County of Erie, the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo is requesting the retention of \$5,556.25 from 2014. Legal Aid lost its lease as of October 31, 2015 and was forced to move. The expenses related to the move were significant. Such a refund of the unused monies would be a hardship to Legal Aid. Please provide authorization to the Bureau to retain the funds as such retention is in the public interest and consistent with the purpose and intent of County Law § 224. I may be contacted at MFin@legalaidbuffalo.org or (716) 853-9555 ext.501. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



MICHELE M. FINN
Chief Administrator

MMF/map

EQLEG MAY 15 2015 AM 10:20

David C. Schopp
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Chief Administrator



Rocco Lucente II
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Treasurer

January 1, 2015

Karen M. McCarthy
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

Pursuant to Article 13 of the agreement with the County of Erie, our 2013 financial statements, annual report and minutes from the annual Board of Directors meeting held on July 10, 2014 were previously submitted to Scott W. Kroll.

At the February 9, 2012 Board of Directors meeting, a motion to approve changes to the By-Laws was approved. The new By-Laws state that the corporation has no members.

If there are any questions or further information is required, please contact me at extension 501.

Very truly yours,


MICHELE M. FINN
Chief Administrator

MMF/map

Enclosures

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January 1, 2016

Karen M. McCarthy
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

Pursuant to Article 13 of the agreement with the County of Erie, our 2014 financial statements, annual report and minutes from the annual Board of Directors meeting held on June 25, 2015 were previously submitted to you.

At the February 9, 2012 Board of Directors meeting, a motion to approve changes to the By-Laws was approved. The new By-Laws state that the corporation has no members.

If there are any questions or further information is required, please contact me at extension 501.

Very truly yours,

MICHELE M. FINN
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MMF/map

Enclosures

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Rocco Lucente II
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First Vice President

Howard G. Foster
Second Vice President

Lisa M. Patterson
Secretary

Raymond P. Reichert
Treasurer

July 1, 2015

Karen M. McCarthy
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

Pursuant to Article 13 of the agreement with the County of Erie, enclosed please find our 2014 financial statements, a copy of the 2014 annual report and a copy of the minutes from the annual Board of Directors meeting held on June 25, 2015.

At the February 9, 2012 Board of Directors meeting, a motion to approve changes to the By-Laws was approved. The new By-Laws state that the corporation has no members.

If there are any questions or further information is required, please contact me at extension 501.

Very truly yours,


MICHELE M. FINN
Chief Administrator

MMF/map

Enclosures

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.

Financial Statements

December 31, 2014

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.

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* * * * *

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Board of Directors
The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc.:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc. (the Bureau), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2014, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Bureau's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bureau's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc. as of December 31, 2014, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Bureau's 2013 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated July 2, 2014. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Toski & Co., CPAs, P.C.

Williamsville, New York
July 28, 2015

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.
Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2014
with comparative totals for 2013

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash	\$ 345,293	744,620
Accounts receivable	1,153,049	690,206
Prepaid expenses	29,481	42,888
Property and equipment, at cost:		
Furniture and equipment	266,479	266,529
Leasehold improvements	69,012	69,012
	335,491	335,541
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(295,545)	(296,183)
Net property and equipment	39,946	39,358
Total assets	\$ 1,567,769	1,517,072
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
Accounts payable	97,200	72,753
Accrued expenses	277,555	230,862
Accrued vacation pay	314,464	267,728
Client advances	65,529	46,617
Deferred revenue	384,331	478,541
Total liabilities	1,139,079	1,096,501
Unrestricted net assets	428,690	420,571
Commitment (note 6)		
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,567,769	1,517,072

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.
Statement of Activities
Year ended December 31, 2014
with comparative totals for 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Unrestricted revenue:		
Fees and grants from governmental agencies	\$ 8,155,445	7,509,354
Membership dues, contributions and other grants	163,466	81,478
Indirect public support - United Way of Buffalo and Erie County	8,850	6,749
Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York	220,447	237,548
Interest income	1,611	1,756
Special event - net	-	18,058
Miscellaneous	2,650	950
Total unrestricted revenue	<u>8,552,469</u>	<u>7,855,893</u>
Unrestricted expenses:		
Program services:		
Civil Unit	1,288,599	1,018,654
Criminal Legal Services	4,246,241	3,882,278
Attorneys for Children	2,376,383	2,314,229
Total program services	<u>7,911,223</u>	<u>7,215,161</u>
Management and general	633,127	607,103
Total unrestricted expenses	<u>8,544,350</u>	<u>7,822,264</u>
Increase in unrestricted net assets	8,119	33,629
Unrestricted net assets at beginning of year	<u>420,571</u>	<u>386,942</u>
Unrestricted net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 428,690</u>	<u>420,571</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.
Statement of Functional Expenses
Year ended December 31, 2014
with comparative totals for 2013

	Civil Unit	Criminal Legal Services	Attorneys for Children	Total program services
Salaries	\$ 899,466	3,171,484	1,710,540	5,781,490
Employee benefits	169,331	561,779	356,260	1,087,370
Payroll taxes	<u>74,456</u>	<u>258,250</u>	<u>137,778</u>	<u>470,484</u>
Total salaries and related expenses	1,143,253	3,991,513	2,204,578	7,339,344
Professional fees	40,579	50,707	22,044	113,330
Supplies	10,531	11,575	8,549	30,655
Telephone	3,382	10,749	7,793	21,924
Postage	4,760	11,334	1,955	18,049
Occupancy	54,404	69,850	77,997	202,251
Transportation	4,703	18,581	20,243	43,527
Conferences	2,689	10,743	706	14,138
Subscriptions and publications	2,563	24,300	6,929	33,792
Specific assistance to clients	3,593	6,785	423	10,801
Insurance	4,523	16,141	7,479	28,143
Memberships dues	3,967	8,383	4,379	16,729
Furniture and equipment	2,651	3,451	5,276	11,378
Maintenance and repairs	2,848	6,061	3,472	12,381
Interest	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	<u>12</u>	<u>490</u>	<u>4,560</u>	<u>5,062</u>
Total expenses before depreciation and amortization	1,284,458	4,240,663	2,376,383	7,901,504
Depreciation and amortization	<u>4,141</u>	<u>5,578</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,719</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$ 1,288,599</u>	<u>4,246,241</u>	<u>2,376,383</u>	<u>7,911,223</u>

(Continued)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.
Statement of Functional Expenses, Continued

	Total program services	Management and general	Total	
			2014	2013
Salaries	\$ 5,781,490	399,099	6,180,589	5,695,941
Employee benefits	1,087,370	97,028	1,184,398	1,026,692
Payroll taxes	470,484	32,668	503,152	461,609
Total salaries and related expenses	7,339,344	528,795	7,868,139	7,184,242
Professional fees	113,330	49,848	163,178	166,446
Supplies	30,655	2,814	33,469	35,206
Telephone	21,924	1,137	23,061	21,248
Postage	18,049	907	18,956	17,294
Occupancy	202,251	29,468	231,719	192,417
Transportation	43,527	103	43,630	30,020
Conferences	14,138	1,175	15,313	25,866
Subscriptions and publications	33,792	718	34,510	25,589
Specific assistance to clients	10,801	-	10,801	9,442
Insurance	28,143	5,251	33,394	29,974
Membership dues	16,729	865	17,594	13,896
Furniture and equipment	11,378	499	11,877	25,021
Maintenance and repairs	12,381	4,694	17,075	21,671
Interest	-	2,014	2,014	624
Miscellaneous	5,062	411	5,473	9,315
Total expenses before depreciation and amortization	7,901,504	628,699	8,530,203	7,808,271
Depreciation and amortization	9,719	4,428	14,147	13,993
Total expenses	\$ 7,911,223	633,127	8,544,350	7,822,264

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.
Statement of Cash Flows
Year ended December 31, 2014
with comparative totals for 2013

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Increase in unrestricted net assets	\$ 8,119	33,629
Adjustments to reconcile increase in unrestricted net assets to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	14,147	13,993
Changes in:		
Accounts receivable	(462,843)	(237,710)
Prepaid expenses	13,407	(16,503)
Accounts payable	24,447	12,771
Accrued expenses	46,693	49,784
Accrued vacation pay	46,736	18,350
Client advances	18,912	8,089
Deferred revenue	<u>(94,210)</u>	<u>(18,080)</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	(384,592)	(135,677)
Cash flows used in investing activities - additions to property and equipment	<u>(14,735)</u>	<u>(19,909)</u>
Net decrease in cash	(399,327)	(155,586)
Cash at beginning of year	<u>744,620</u>	<u>900,206</u>
Cash at end of year	<u>\$ 345,293</u>	<u>744,620</u>
Supplemental schedule of cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the year for interest	<u>\$ 2,014</u>	<u>624</u>
Disposal of fully depreciated property and equipment	<u>\$ 14,785</u>	<u>539</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2014

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Nature of Activities

The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc. (the Bureau) is a not-for-profit corporation formed for benevolent and charitable purposes; to render legal aid, gratuitously, to persons who are financially unable to procure legal assistance in the County of Erie, New York; to assist or defend such persons without means in the pursuit of any civil remedy or legal right, or in defense of any civil, criminal or quasi-criminal prosecution or other offenses, and to promote measures for their protection; to supervise auxiliary programs and to cooperate with other agencies.

(b) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Bureau have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

(c) Basis of Presentation

The Bureau reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets and permanently restricted net assets. The Bureau had only unrestricted net assets in 2014 and 2013.

(d) Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

(e) Cash

For purposes of reporting cash flows, cash includes money market accounts and any highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less.

(f) Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Bureau to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalent accounts in financial institutions. Although the accounts exceed the federally insured deposit amount, management does not anticipate nonperformance by the financial institution.

(g) Property and Equipment

Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements owned by the Bureau are stated at cost. Depreciation of furniture and equipment is provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Amortization of leasehold improvements is provided over the remaining term of their respective leases, not including any extensions of the terms of the lease agreement exercised after the leasehold improvement was made.

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, Continued

(g) Property and Equipment, Continued

Certain program sponsors retain title to furniture and equipment acquired with their funds. Expenditures for such items so acquired are not capitalized but recorded as program expense.

(h) Deferred Revenue and Revenue Recognition

Grant awards accounted for as exchange transactions are recorded as revenue when expenditures have been incurred in compliance with the grant restrictions. Amounts unspent are recorded in the statement of financial position as deferred revenue.

(i) Contributed Services, Materials and Equipment

During the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, the value of contributed services meeting the requirements for recognition in the financial statements was not material and has not been recorded. However, many individuals volunteer their time and perform a variety of tasks that assist the Bureau. Donated materials and equipment, when received, are recorded as contributions at their estimated fair market value at date of donation.

(j) Expense Allocation

The costs of providing various programs and other activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities and in the statement of functional expenses. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

(k) Subsequent Events

The Bureau has evaluated subsequent events through the date of the report which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

(l) Income Taxes

The Bureau is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code); therefore, no provision for income taxes is reflected in the financial statements. The Bureau has been classified as a publicly supported organization that is not a private foundation under Section 509(a) of the Code. The Bureau presently discloses or recognizes income tax positions based on management's estimate of whether it is reasonably possible or probable that a liability has been incurred for unrecognized income taxes. Management has concluded that the Bureau has taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment in its financial statements. U.S. Forms 990 filed by the Bureau are subject to examination by taxing authorities. The Bureau is no longer subject to tax examination for the years ended December 31, 2010, and prior.

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.
Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(2) Fees and Grants from Governmental Agencies

A summary of fees and grants from governmental agencies for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
United States Department of Veteran Affairs	\$ 50,367	8,160
City of Buffalo	78,693	91,475
County of Erie	4,485,333	4,107,500
Other Western New York Counties	120,156	109,620
State of New York	<u>3,420,896</u>	<u>3,192,599</u>
Total fees and grants from governmental agencies	\$ <u>8,155,445</u>	<u>7,509,354</u>

(3) Retirement Plan

The Bureau participates in a defined contribution retirement plan which is underwritten by Principal Life Insurance Company. All employees who are at least age 21 and have provided a minimum service of two years are eligible for coverage under the plan. The plan requires that the Bureau contribute 6% of participants' annual salary. Participants are fully vested from their first day of participation in the plan. Retirement expense amounted to \$309,658 and \$281,947 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

(4) Note Payable

The Bureau has a bank line of credit amounting to \$1,500,000. The line is secured by accounts receivable, inventory, furniture, fixtures, machinery and equipment, and general intangibles owned by the Bureau. At December 31, 2014, there was no outstanding balance on this line of credit. Interest on the line of credit is at prime plus .75% (4% at December 31, 2014).

(5) Economic Dependency

A material part of the Bureau's funding is dependent upon a few contracts, the loss of any one would have a material adverse effect on the Bureau. In 2014, the County of Erie accounted for 52% of the Bureau's unrestricted revenue.

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(6) Commitment

The Bureau has entered into a lease agreement for its facilities which expires October 31, 2015.

Total rent expense for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 amounted to \$231,719 and \$192,417, respectively. Future minimum lease payments under this operating lease as of December 31, 2014 are \$173,035.

(7) Related Party Transactions

A relative of a board member provided grant writing services to the Bureau. The total paid by the Bureau for these services amounted to \$36,000 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.
June 25, 2015

PRESENT:

Irving A. Barrett, Jr.
Patrick Brown
Howard G. Foster
Bernard B. Freedman
John T. Kolaga
Courtland R. LaVallee
Salvatore R. Martoche
Charles C. Martorana
Frank B. Mesiah
Raymond P. Reichert
James J. Rooney
Lisa M. Patterson
Robert Sandgrund
Allison Stravino
David C. Schopp, Chief Executive Officer
Michele M. Finn, Chief Administrator

NOT ATTENDING:

Heather Anderson
Elizabeth Carlson
Rocco Lucente II
James L. Magavern
Cheryl Meyers-Buth
Athena Mutua

President James Rooney called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the Board Minutes from April 16, 2015. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Irving Barrett, seconded by Bernard Freedman and unanimously approved.

Reports of Committees

Nominating Committee

James Rooney stated all Board Members whose term expires in June 2015 are willing to serve another three-year term. Mr. Rooney requested a motion to elect the following Board Members: Howard Foster, John Kolaga, Courtland LaVallee, Cheryl Meyers-Buth, Athena Mutua, Lisa Patterson, James Rooney and David Schopp to a three-year term expiring in 2018. A motion made by Bernard Freedman, seconded by Irving Barrett was unanimously approved. (At this time Charles Martorana arrived.)

Mr. Rooney stated the Nominating Committee is also proposing to add two additional candidates to serve on the Board of Directors. (Resumes of the candidates were handed out.) After a brief discussion, a motion by Howard Foster was made, seconded by John Kolaga and unanimously passed electing William Coughlin and Michael Hecker to a three-year term expiring in 2018.

Mr. Rooney requested a motion to elect the following Board Members to the Executive Committee:

Rocco Lucente II, President
James J. Rooney, First Vice-President
Howard Foster, Second Vice-President
Lisa M. Patterson, Secretary
Raymond P. Reichert, Treasurer

A motion to elect this slate of officers was made by Salvatore Martoche, seconded by Irving Barrett was unanimously passed.

Ad hoc Lease Committee

Mr. Schopp stated the lease with Ellicott Development was signed two weeks ago. The scheduled move in date is the end of October 2015. Mr. Schopp gave a brief description of the floor plans.

Planning and Development Committee

Mr. Rooney stated that the fundraising chairperson, Salvatore Martoche; consultants, Sarah Carney, and Jan Barrett (from Grant Builders); and the other members are very active in the fundraising process. A theme of excellence will be used to promote the upgrading of equipment, furnishings, technology, and other costs associated with the move. Mr. Rooney mentioned that he is encouraging all Board Members to participate in this fund drive. Salvatore Martoche briefly spoke on the need for an enthusiastic participation by Board members. He mentioned that Jim Wadsworth has pledged \$30,000 from three foundations to furnish the Children's waiting room. Jan Barrett has started the process of contacting foundations for support. (Ms. Barrett handed out her Foundation List). She asked if any Board Member has contacts at any of the foundations, to please let her know. Sarah Carney referred to the packet (handout). The packets are in the process of being finalized. Board Member Charles Martorana asked about an "Appreciation Marker" for donors. A discussion arose. Mr. Schopp stated the committee has not determined the criteria for an "Appreciation Marker" for donations yet. (At this time, Bernard Freedman left.)

Mr. Schopp highlighted his Chief Executive Officer's report:

Civil Legal Services Unit

- *We are in the process of finalizing our proposal for the second year Oishei Foundation funding of the CRLS project, and have been informed that the*

ask needs to be significantly less than last year. Our proposal will include a 15%-20% reduction in funding to all partners, including LAB. Each agency anticipates being able to make up the shortfall with new State Judiciary funding that we are all anticipating in the current state budget year.

- *We currently have vacancies for an attorney and a paralegal in the Civil Legal Services Unit, and two staff members are out on extended leaves. It's a very busy time for everyone in the Unit!*

Criminal Defense Units

- *There are three attorney vacancies in the Criminal Defense Unit. Staff Attorneys Tiffany Perry and Heather Anderson have recently resigned, and a recently hired attorney was asked to leave. We are now in the hiring process, and Alex Anzalone, an attorney with exceptional educational credentials and impressive public interest experience, has been hired to fill one of these positions.*
- *The New York State Offices of Indigent Legal Services has still not announced which counties will be funded to host Regional Immigration Resource Centers. The Ontario County Public Defenders' office and the Legal Aid Bureau submitted a joint proposal in response to the State's RFP.*
- *Barbara Davies, the former supervisor of and now staff attorney in the Bureau's Appeals and Post-Conviction Unit recently won a significant Court of Appeals case involving youthful offender status.*
- *We are still in the process of negotiating new three-year contracts with Genesee and Cattaraugus for appellate and post-conviction representation. Both counties recognize that the Bureau is entitled to significant increases in compensation but have not been able to located and/or commit the needed additional funds. We have short-term extensions (with increased compensation) of our contracts while we are trying to work this out.*

Treasurer's Report:

- Ms. Finn stated the Bureau has not received \$20,000 from the City of Buffalo for services rendered in 2013. Ms. Finn is working with the city to receive this money. Ms. Finn stated the City of Buffalo is making us reapply and needs Board authorization to approve the grant application. A motion to approve a BURA application for \$20,000 (Emergency Shelter Grant) for the period May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014 was made by Salvatore Martoche, seconded by Irving Barrett and unanimously approve.

- Ms. Finn requested Board approval to amend the contract with P&A Flexible Spending Account to allow the grace period to be extended two extra months. A motion by Salvatore Martoche, seconded by Lisa Patterson was unanimously approved.
- Presently there is approximately \$850,000 in savings.
- The Bureau received a two year contract for the period April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2017 for \$440,000 from IOLA. This is the same funding level as the prior period.
- The Bureau submitted a grant proposal under Judiciary Civil Legal Services funding for two attorneys, a paralegal and a senior paralegal totaling \$275,095.
- The Attorneys for Children Unit received \$2,684,008 for the period of April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016, which represents a 2% increase (\$52,629) over the prior year's allocation of \$2,631,379.
- The Bureau received \$5,000 from the Gannett Foundation for outreach materials for the CRLS Project.
- Genesee County proposed a \$50,000 extension for the period of 6/1/15 to 12/31/15. Cattaraugus County proposed a \$7,500 extension for 6/1/15-9/30/15 (4 mos.). The funding is provided for appellate representation within the respected counties.
- The Line of Credit is at 1.5 million. The line is renewed on an annual basis. The bank will be reviewing our audited financial statements once they are completed.

David Schopp referred to the "Costs for Move" sheet (handed out at meeting). This estimate represents "the pie in the sky" costs associated with moving. Mr. Schopp stated he does not anticipate spending this much, but did not want to underestimate the expenses.

Mr. Rooney stated the Board does not meet during the summer and with the expenditures associated with the move needing to take place before the September meeting, he requested the Board to consider authorizing the Executive Committee to approve expenditures over the spending limits stated in the By-Laws. A discussion arose as to setting some parameters.

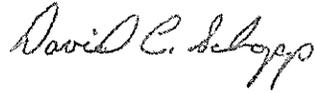
A motion was made to authorize the Executive Committee to act for the Board to approve expenditures not to exceed the parameters of the "Cost for Move" budget submitted by Ms. Finn. The Board unanimously passed the motion. Howard Foster requested that a report be sent to the Board for expenditures made when the Board is not in session.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David C. Schopp".

David C. Schopp
Assistant Secretary



**LEGAL
AID
BUREAU**
of Buffalo, Inc.

Working for Justice Since 1912

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



237 Main Street – Suite 1602

Buffalo, New York 14203

716-853-9555
Comm. 10M-6

Page 24 of 44

Lots happened at the Legal Aid Bureau in 2014, much of which caused a lot of scrambling and positioning in the short run, but all of which is leaving us with exciting prospects for the future.

First of all, our longtime Chief Attorney of the Appeals Unit, Barbara J. Davies, made the decision to step down to a part-time position as a staff attorney in the same unit. We are happy that she continues to be an integral part of the operation, that we are not losing Barbara's invaluable experience and expertise.

We are thrilled to have hired into her supervisory capacity Timothy Murphy, who was himself a staff attorney in the Appeals Unit for some 10 years before he left for private practice. Tim is widely recognized for his excellence in the appellate field. He is currently Chair of the Erie County Bar Association's Appellate Practice Committee and is an active speaker at CLE programs on the subject. We welcome him back and enjoy working with him once again.

A tremendously significant development in 2014 was the \$535,000 grant from the Oshei Foundation that has allowed us to undertake, as the lead agency, the *CRLS* Coordinated Refugee/Asylee Legal Services Project. In conjunction with local resettlement agencies and legal-services provider in the area, we are now able to provide greatly expanded legal representation to a needy, growing population, as majority of refugees coming to New York State are settled in Buffalo.

Perhaps most impactful of all—in a very real, physical sense—has been the loss of our lease as the new owner of our building, in the spirit of the newly resurgent Buffalo, converts it to a mixed-use facility. We will be moving, by October 31, to consolidated quarters at 290 Main Street, where we will have two floors. It's an enormous task, but the prospect is exciting, and we expect to profit from greater synergies and efficiencies.

So 2014 will be recalled as an especially eventful year for Legal Aid, challenging but energizing. All of us here are now fully engaged in the work of 2015, committed as always to providing access to justice for those who cannot afford an attorney.

David C. Schopp

Remarks by the CEO



The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc. is a charitable not-for-profit corporation founded in 1912 by community leaders to provide legal representation and advice to the poor of our community. The Bureau has served this vital role in Western New York since then. In 2014, it provided advice, representation, or referral to 23,427 persons in need. The Bureau's services are available to low-income individuals in Western New York who cannot afford counsel, except for those of its Attorneys for Children Unit, where no income guidelines apply.

The Legal Aid Bureau is supported by funding from Erie County, the City of Buffalo, the State of New York, the United States government and from the IOLA (Interest on Lawyer Account) Fund of the State of New York, the Oishei Foundation, the Western New York Foundation and the generous contributions of members of the community. Additionally, we receive the services of numerous volunteers and interns from the community and its educational institutions.

The Bureau's **Civil Legal Services** Unit represents low-income individuals and families in a variety of civil matters that have a direct impact on their quality of life. Additionally, the Legal Aid Bureau accepts all cases assigned to it by the courts, without regard to number. These assigned cases include abused, neglected and other children at risk, who are represented by the staff attorneys of the **Attorneys for Children** Unit. The attorneys of the **Criminal Defense** Unit represent criminal defendants arrested in the City of Buffalo. Persons convicted of crimes in Erie County Superior Courts are represented by the lawyers of the **Appeals and Post-Conviction** Unit.

CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES

During 2014, the Civil Legal Services Unit added an attorney, a paralegal, and a project coordinator. It continued representation in mortgage and *in rem* foreclosures, housing-code violations, water shutoffs, re-entry matters, bankruptcy, employment matters, and family-justice matters in Supreme Court.

In July, the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo became lead partner in a collaboration of seven legal services agencies in Western New York, known as the Coordinated Refugee/Asylee Legal Services Project, formed to promote community integration and self-sustenance among a burgeoning population of refugees, asylees, and asylum-seekers. Our staff established a coordinated continuum of care in delivery of civil legal services related to the immigrants' health, education, family, housing, immigration, and income-maintenance needs. Legal Aid housed Central Intake, providing linguistically- and culturally-competent access to legal services for them. We are looking forward to the second year, in which staff will work closely with project partners, the Mayor's Office for New Americans, community immigrant groups, and other stakeholders to further support the growth of immigrant communities as a whole, while providing much needed individual legal representation for Buffalo's newest residents.

The Re-Entry Project serves individuals struggling with the civil consequences of state or federal criminal convictions. In 2014, our Federal Re-Entry Court program developed cooperative initiatives with service providers assisting participants in the Federal Court program in Rochester, thus ensuring greater continuity for individuals who move from one program to the other. The Re-Entry Practicum at the University at Buffalo School of Law continues to provide civil legal services for Re-Entry Court participants while giving law students valuable experience in client representation. The Re-Entry team currently houses the Erie County Restorative Justice Initiative, which has provided training for almost a hundred individuals in Western New York who seek certification to lead restorative-justice sessions.

We continue our initiative to make civil legal services for veterans a priority. With the assistance of AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer coordinator, we began reaching out to veterans' groups throughout Western New York to assist those of them in need who are not currently linked to any assistive program.

In October, the Unit developed a new collaboration with the Eighth Judicial District, providing knowledgeable staff to assist with the Supreme Court Help Desk. Four days per week, our attorneys began counseling would-be litigants in Supreme Court matters. The services included divorces, name changes, warrant-of-eviction vacatures, consumer issues, and a variety of others.

During the year we expanded our representation in contested Supreme Court family matters in Niagara County, as well as continued to handle complex matrimonial cases in Erie County litigation. In addition, we developed a new system for to enhance comprehensive representation on all matters pending before the specialized Integrated Domestic Violence Court.

In the coming year, we look forward to enlarging our community networks.



Civil Legal Services

New Clients	1,504
Classification of Cases	
Consumer/Finance	53
Education	20
Employment	18
Family	333
Health	1
Housing	686
Income Maintenance	305
Individual Rights	24
Juvenile Rights	0
Miscellaneous	64
Total	1,504
Dispositions	
Investigated and Closed at Initial Contact	335
Disposed of Without Litigation	331
Matrimonial Litigation	71
Eviction Litigation	3
Tax Foreclosure Litigation	96
Ordinance Violation Litigation	29
Other Litigation	115
Mortgage Foreclosure	221
Administrative Proceedings	61
Terminated by Client	318
Total	1,580
Telephone Hotline	3,279

ATTORNEYS FOR CHILDREN UNIT

Established concurrently with the New York State's new Family Court Act in 1962, the Attorneys for Children (AFC) Unit of the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo celebrated fifty years of service to children in Erie County in 2012. The AFC Unit provides legal representation and counsel to the majority of children in Erie County who are abused, neglected, in foster care, or involved in the juvenile-justice system as Juvenile Delinquents (JD's) or Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS).

Representing clients ranging in age from newborns to age 21, the AFC Unit is "dedicated to excellence in child-centered legal representation and social advocacy." To that end, we use a multifaceted approach, with a Masters-level social worker and/or a specialized paralegal assigned to collaborate with the attorney, who typically remains the child's counsel throughout the case. We emphasize frequent contact with our clients, knowing that before we can speak for a child, we must listen to the child. Then, with the benefit in-depth investigation and informed advocacy, the team works to develop a comprehensive plan for advocating for each client's wishes, rights and interests.

The staff attorneys of the AFC Unit represented 4,894 children during 2014, including 41 appeals cases, and made over 31,000 court appearances. The Unit also continued to expand its efforts in the area of educational advocacy, with paralegals and attorneys participating in school meetings and hearings to ensure that our clients receive an appropriate school experience and necessary special educational services.

Some highlights for 2014 include the following:

- Appropriate placement for a neglected child in need of a therapeutic setting;
- Finding relatives of two orphaned children whose adoptive mother had died in time for a Christmas celebration in their new forever home;
- Securing an accommodation plan for a child who has struggled with significant school phobia and medical issues to assist her in successful re-entry into school;
- The return of children to their mother within a matter of months due to her compliance with Judge Margaret Szczur's Family Treatment Court Program.
- The removal and ultimate return of an infant from his parents to a father who demonstrated under supervision over many months his commitment to fulfilling all his paternal obligations in a caring manner;
- The removal of a brain-damaged infant who had sustained life-threatening injuries due to being violently shaken to relatives with whom he is now thriving.



- Specialization by one AFC attorney in the Indian Child Welfare Act, who has now represented over twenty-five native children this year and has established rapport with Peacemaker justices, court staff and service providers.
- Assistance to a young mother in the process of her “aging out” as a Social Service ward;
- Establishment of a trust and trustee for a teenage client who sustained an injury resulting in paraplegia while in foster care;
- Placement by an AFC attorney of a former client, ill at ease and disconnected, residing at home with her 3-month-old daughter, in a Mother/Baby program, which helped her to attend high school and learn proper care for her happier, healthier one-year old;
- Obtaining psychiatric care for a sixteen-year-old runaway with a long history of mental illness, now reunited with her father and returned to high school;
- Successful advocacy that two of our “hardest to place” teenage sisters be released from foster care to live with a great-aunt;
- Finding a group-home placement and a job for our twenty-year-old developmentally disabled client by coordinating with various service-providers, including private counsel to set up a Special Needs Trust to protect a substantial amount of money that he had been awarded as the result of a successful lawsuit, ensuring him financial security for the future.

Additionally, the AFC Unit hosted the 5th Annual Yuletide Challenge Toy Drive, brightening the holidays of many of our clients, thanks to the generosity of the Bar Association of Erie County’s Young Lawyers Committee, together with the Minority Bar Association and the Women’s Bar Association of Western New York. Santa Claus distributed toys and treats to more than fifty children at the December 20th Bureau event, with a total of more than 650 gifts wrapped and distributed to clients of the Attorneys for Children Unit during the holiday season.

The Attorneys for Children Unit continues to be dedicated to improving the lives of the children whose circumstances have brought their families into court.

Attorneys for Children Unit

		2013	2014
CHILDREN SERVED			
	JDs	349	355
	PINS	189	244
	Custody	1,132	1,139
	Child Protective	933	1,139
	Guardianship	1	1
	Paternity	32	40
	Support	1	1
	Family Offense	77	111
	Approval of Foster Care	0	8
	Termination of Parental Rights	240	234
	Designated Felonies	0	0
	Supplemental Categories*	741	1,102
	Other	487	520
	Total	4,182	4,894
Appellate Activity			
	Total Children	48	41
	Total Court Appearances	34,156	31,783

*Violations, extensions of placement, restores to calendar, modifications of orders, *etc.*



CRIMINAL DEFENSE UNIT

The Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo's Criminal Defense Unit comprises two separate entities: the City Court Office and the Felony Office. The former is responsible for the mandated representation of indigent persons charged with New York State Penal Law and misdemeanor Vehicle and Traffic offenses handled in that court; it represents all indigent defendants at arraignment and continues representation of those defendants whose cases are charged at, or are later reduced to, misdemeanor level and below. The latter assumes superior court D- and E-Felony cases charged in the City Court of Buffalo.

With seventeen attorneys and eight support staff covering eleven Buffalo City Court judicial calendars the Criminal Defense Unit-Buffalo City Court Office handled more than fifty thousand (50,000) court appearances for more than thirteen thousand five hundred (13,500) cases during 2014. These numbers rendered the Criminal Defense Unit-Buffalo City Court Bureau (CDU-BCC) one of the highest-volume indigent-legal-services providers in Western New York.

Despite high caseload-volume and the fast-paced environment of an overburdened City Court, the CDU-BCC attorneys consistently achieve excellent results for their clients. In 2014, the CDU-BCC represented clients in nearly one-third of all criminal trials held in Buffalo City Court, achieving either acquittal or conviction to a lesser included count in over 80% of verdicts.

The Attorneys of the CDU-BCC are dedicated to the cause of ensuring that all defendants assigned to the office receive the very best representation despite their inability to secure same through their own means. They practice a "client-centered" approach with a goal toward achieving the best possible disposition after thorough examination of the law as applied to the particular facts of the case.

In addition to continuing efforts toward full "holistic" representation, in 2014 the attorneys of the CDU became highly engaged in community-policing issues specifically related to police action within the confines of Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority properties as well as the City of Buffalo proper. By fiercely defending the rights of our clients subject to police agencies employing *quasi* "stop and frisk" tactics found unconstitutional by federal courts, the CDU ob-

tained several dismissals and established legal precedent concerning the use of unlawful search-and-seizure measures within the City generally and BMHA properties specifically.

The CDU-BCC is looking forward to moving to new office space with the rest of its Legal Aid Bureau family in late October 2015. With new and better space outside the confines of Buffalo City Court, we hope to have both the resources and the room to fully service our clients in the resolution of their issues.

While the CDU-BCC office represented clients in City Court, more than 250 clients were diverted to Superior Court, where the attorneys of the Criminal Defense Unit Felony Office continued representation. In 2014, in order to facilitate a more orderly transition of felony-level cases from City Court to Felony Office Attorneys, a system was developed allowing for transfer much earlier in the evolution of the case. This considerably diminished dislocation and improved efficiency.

In a bittersweet turn, the Criminal Defense Unit bid farewell to two prominent members of its team at the conclusion of 2014. Barbara Johnson-Lee, a longtime Staff Attorney in both the Buffalo City Court Office as well as the Felony Office, successfully ran for a position on the Buffalo City Court bench. Sworn in January 2015, Judge Johnson-Lee continues the goal of seeking justice as that court's newest Judge.

Additionally, Attorney-in-Charge of the Criminal Division, William Coughlin, left us to become the Confidential Law Clerk to newly-elected State Supreme Court Justice E. Jeannette Ogden. In his time with Legal Aid, Mr. Coughlin was instrumental in further development of the Felony Office as well as overseeing a movement to regionalism in mandated representation through Legal Aid's contract to provide appeals in Genesee, Cattaraugus and Orleans counties.

We thank both Mr. Coughlin and Judge Johnson-Lee for their exceptional contribution to the Criminal Defense Unit as we look forward to continued success in the representation of our clients in 2015.



Criminal Defense Unit

New Defendants	13,604	Finding after Trial		Community Service	
Felony	1,729	Guilty as Charged	20	Felony	22
Felony (Drug)	51	Guilty to Lesser	49	Misdemeanor	80
Felony (DV)	566	Dismissed (also Not Guilty)	29	Violation	5
Misdemeanor	9,576			Fine	
Violation	1,387	Sentences		Felony	63
Infraction	125	Jail		Misdemeanor	2,016
Appeals*	170	Felony	475	Violation	109
Pleas as Charged	554	Misdemeanor	1,291	Infraction	61
Felony	62	Violation	84	Unconditional Discharge	
Misdemeanor	207	Infraction	5	Felony	5
Violation	262	Probation		Misdemeanor	119
Infraction	23	Felony	93	Violation	0
Pleas to Lesser		Misdemeanor	35	Infraction	5
Felony	842	Conditional Discharge		Closed Cases (Other)	
to lesser Felony	57	Felony	305	ACD	1,294
Misdemeanor	465	Misdemeanor	1,300	Private Counsel	674
Violation	277	Violation	64	Assigned Counsel	468
Infraction	43	Infraction	4	Dismissed on Motion	1,935
Misdemeanor	4,606	Prison		Speedy Trial	1,714
to lesser Misdemeanor	814	Felony	29	Relieved	53
Violation	1,781	Misdemeanor	2	No Bill	7
Infraction	2,011	Prison—Willard Program	4	Admit to VOP	101
Violation	108	Shock	2	Not Guilty to VOP	3
to lesser Violation	0			Transfer to Family Court	0
Infraction	108			Rejected	1
SCI Plea to Higher Charge	2			Other	20
Trials	98				
Felony	11				
Misdemeanor	78				
Violation	9				

APPEALS AND POST-CONVICTION UNIT

The Appeals and Post-Conviction Unit in 2014 saw a number of substantive changes. While still representing indigent criminal appellate clients in Erie, Cattaraugus, Genesee and Orleans counties, the Unit changed to its present name in June of 2014 and began to provide what the Office of Indigent Legal Services sees as a holistic approach to appellate and post-conviction representation.

Staff attorneys in the Unit now regularly file reply briefs, argue every case in court that the Appellate Division allows, provide a draft of the briefs to clients before filing them in court, conduct moot court sessions on certain cases and either visit their clients in custody or conduct a confidential call. The Unit now has a greater involvement with the Bar Association of Erie County as well. Attorneys also investigate the possibility of filing CPL 440 motions for their clients. The Unit in 2014 secured relief for its indigent clients in over a dozen appeals.

As of December of 2014, the Unit had eleven staff attorneys, a managing attorney and a chief attorney. The Unit also has two excellent administrative personnel. Ours is the largest purely criminal appeals office outside of New York City.

In 2014, the Unit secured relief for its indigent clients in over a dozen appeals, including a matter in Cattaraugus County on a direct state appeal and the rare granting of a *coram nobis* motion (addressing a former appellate attorney's effectiveness) regarding a previously filed Genesee County appeal. The Unit also secured before the Court of Appeals an affirmance of a reversal by the Appellate Division regarding a Fourth Amendment issue, originating out of Erie County. We also secured a rare stay pending appeal on an Erie County appeal. Our Unit also filed a number of motions for clients whose attorneys had missed required deadlines in filing notices of appeal, thus making sure that these indigent litigants have their day in court at the appellate level.

Appeals and Post-Conviction Unit

Cases Closed	146	Other Submissions	29
Appeals Pending	267	Application for Leave to Appeal to Court of Appeals	73
Briefs Filed	211		



2014 Financial Summary

There was an \$8,119 increase in unrestricted net assets at the end of 2014. Total unrestricted net assets at year end were \$428,690, the difference between total assets of \$1,567,769 and total liabilities of \$1,139,079.

The provision of criminal legal services was funded through six (6) grants from the County of Erie, one (1) grant from New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, and three (3) grants from other counties within Western New York. The largest grant, from Erie County, totaled \$3,633,528, an increase of \$35,975 or 1% from 2013. During 2014, Legal Aid was awarded two additional contracts by the County from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services for a total of four (4) contracts from that Office. The purpose of the funding is to assist the County in improving the quality of indigent legal services pursuant to article 18B of the County Law. Both of the new contracts are for a three (3) year period ending December 31, 2016. One of the contracts totaling \$224,529 funds a full-time attorney position to provide representation in Buffalo City Court Treatment Courts. The other contract totaling \$727,566 for the three year period funds a managing attorney position for the Criminal Defense Unit and an attorney position in the Appeals Unit. These ten (10) grants fund the Felony Appeals and Criminal Defense Units.

The Attorneys for Children Unit, providing legal representation for children appearing in Family Court, is funded by the New York State Unified Court System Office of Court Administration. In 2014, the Baird Foundation donated \$1,000 for this unit's book donation. A book is provided to each child arriving at the office to meet with an attorney and/or social worker.

The Civil Legal Services Unit receives funding from many sources, below are some noteworthy examples from 2014:

The most noteworthy accomplishment for the Civil Unit in 2014 was the \$535,000 award from the John R. Oishei Foundation for the formation of the Coordinated Refugee/Asylee Legal Services Project. The project coordinates the services of seven (7) agencies, that provide various types of civil legal services, to serve clients with refugee or asylee status. The Western New York Foundation also awarded a \$30,000 contingent grant in support of the project to be payable over a two year period.

The Oversight Board for Judiciary Civil Legal Services Funds in New York awarded \$567,517 for the provision of civil legal assistance to low-income New Yorkers in matters involving the essentials of life.

EPIC (Every Person Influences Children) contracted with Legal Aid for \$13,050 to provide services for families in transition. These services include presentations at workshops, legal services to eligible families, as well as professional development to assist local service providers in understanding the custody process.

The Civil Legal Services Unit was awarded \$220,000 from the Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York for the provision of civil legal services. The

Interest on Lawyer Account (IOLA) Fund generates income from interest on short-term or nominal client escrow accounts accumulated in New York lawyers' trust accounts.

The unit also received \$55,200 from the City of Buffalo Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program to provide housing related legal services to residents of Buffalo.

The Western New York Law Center, Legal Services for the Elderly, Disabled or Disadvantaged (LSED) and Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo collaborate to provide services under the Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Project. Legal Aid received an award of \$199,104 through the Western New York Law Center (as lead agency on the grant) from the NYS Office of the Attorney General to provide legal services in mortgage foreclosure cases. The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services also provided \$36,119 towards the project that was divided between the two (2) original agencies of the project: Legal Aid and LSED.

The Western District of New York United States District Court donated \$7,500 and The New York Bar Foundation granted \$5,000 to Legal Aid for its Re-entry program. The program assists individuals to readjust to society after incarceration by providing legal services that would help to secure employment, housing, education, and family stability.

The Service Collaborative of WNY, Inc. provided an AmeriCorps VISTA member to the Bureau to develop a program that would provide legal services to veterans, military personnel, and family members.

In addition to the funding sources noted above, the Bureau received \$2000 from the M&T Charitable Foundation and \$1500 from the Evans-Devereux Memorial Fund, donations from local attorneys and other interested parties through our annual fund drive, donations from area law firms, as well as donations from the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County annual campaign. These donations are an extremely important factor in funding our Civil Legal Services Unit and are, therefore, greatly appreciated.

Once again, we would like to thank our staff, volunteers, the community, and our funders for their role in helping us provide legal advice and representation to the financially needy men, women, and children in Western New York.



THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.

Statement of Activities

Year ended December 31, 2014

Unrestricted revenue:

City of Buffalo	\$ 78,693	.92%
County of Erie	4,485,333	52.44%
Other Western New York Counties	120,156	1.40%
State of New York	3,420,896	40.00%
U. S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs	50,367	0.59%
Membership dues, contributions and other grants	163,466	1.91%
Indirect public support - United Way of Buffalo and Erie County	8,850	0.10%
Interest on Lawyer Account Fund of the State of New York	220,447	2.58%
Interest income	1,611	0.02%
Miscellaneous	2,650	0.03%
	<hr/>	
Total unrestricted revenue	\$8,552,469	100.00%

Unrestricted expenses:

Program services:

Civil Unit	\$ 1,288,599
Criminal Legal Services	4,246,241
Attorneys for Children	2,376,383
	<hr/>
Total program services	7,911,223
Management and general	633,127
	<hr/>
Total unrestricted expenses	8,544,350
Increase in unrestricted net assets	\$ 8,119
	<hr/>

CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND ACCURATE:


MICHELE M. FINN, ASSISTANT TREASURER

THE LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.

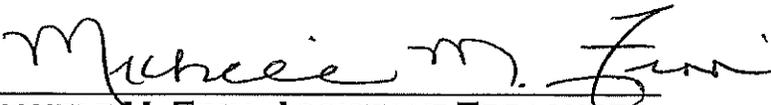
Statement of Functional Expenses

Year ended December 31, 2014

Expenses

Salaries	\$6,180,589	72.34%
Employee benefits	1,184,398	13.86%
Payroll taxes	<u>503,152</u>	<u>5.89%</u>
Total salaries and related expenses	\$7,868,139	92.09%
Professional fees	163,178	1.91%
Supplies	33,469	0.39%
Telephone	23,061	0.27%
Postage	18,956	0.22%
Occupancy	231,719	2.71%
Transportation	43,630	0.51%
Conferences	15,313	0.18%
Subscriptions and publications	34,510	0.40%
Specific assistance to clients	10,801	0.13%
Insurance	33,394	0.39%
Membership dues	17,594	0.21%
Furniture and equipment	11,877	0.14%
Maintenance and repairs	17,075	0.20%
Interest	2,014	0.02%
Miscellaneous	5,473	0.06%
Depreciation and amortization	<u>14,147</u>	<u>0.17%</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$8,544,350</u>	100.00%

CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND ACCURATE:


MICHELE M. FINN, ASSISTANT TREASURER



2014 Legal Aid Bureau Staff

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David C. Schopp

Chief Administrator

Michele M. Finn

Office Manager

Judith A. Benson

Human Resources Manager

Amy Jeanty-Blum

Assistant Controller

Michele A. Poulos

Attorney-in-Charge, Criminal Defense Division

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Chief Attorney, Criminal Defense Unit

Kevin M. Stadelmaier

Managing Attorney, Criminal Defense Unit

Danielle H. Maichle

Chief Atty, Appeals and Post-Conviction

Timothy P. Murphy

Managing Atty, Appeals and Post-Conviction

Susan C. Ministero

Chief Attorney, Attorneys for Children Unit

Pamela L. Neubeck

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